

9. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

This chapter provides an overview of the Utility's design and construction requirements for new facilities.

9.1 PROCEDURES

Project review procedures vary with the level of complexity of the proposed project. As defined in WAC 246-290-125, there are exceptions to project report and document submittal to DOH. No DOH approval per WAC 246-290-125(1) is needed for installation of valves, fittings, meters and backflow prevention assemblies; hydrants; repair of a system with a component of similar capacity and material; and maintenance activities not contacting potable water. The Utility meets the criteria under WAC 246-290-125(2) and elects to not typically submit plans to WSDOH for new or replacement distribution mains.

Construction documents and plans prepared by the Utility will follow standards used in the Engineering Division of Lewis County Public Works; and will be approved for construction by the County Engineer.

All requests for water service associated by building permits, land development reviews, land use zoning changes, special uses and other activities needing water service follow county project review procedures. At this time, Lewis County issues building permits for projects in the water service area. This includes lands within the city limits and outside the city limits. There is coordination between the City and Lewis County for these activities because:

- A significant portion of our service area is on lands administered by the City;
- the City contracts with Lewis County for building permitting services (reviews, permitting and inspections) on properties within city limits;
- the City conducts enforcement of land development activities within city limits;
- All land use zoning changes must be approved by Lewis County; and
- Water service, an essential service, in the city is provided by Lewis County.

All development projects requiring or affecting water service are reviewed by the utility. As part of the county review process, the applicant completes a Public Water Availability Notification form. This form is administered by the Environmental Services division of Lewis County Health, and is forwarded to the utility for review if the project is in our service area. As mentioned in Chapter 8, a water use questionnaire is also required. Service capability is either approved with or without conditions, or denied. The general process is outlined below.

1. Applicant submits a written request for water service availability with a project description and land development application from the City or Lewis County. This request is on a Public Water Availability Notification form administered by the Environmental Services division of Lewis County Health. An estimate of water demand prepared by a professional engineer licensed in the state of Washington in civil engineering may be needed if the proposed development is not a single family residential project.

2. If the proposed project is within city limits, then it will be regulated by the City. City will request the applicant to complete the Water Availability Notification form and provide information as requested by the Utility.
3. Utility will review; provide a written response summarizing the requirements and conditions for water service; verify completion of requirements and conditions; and coordinate with other Lewis County departments and programs to ensure safe and reliable water service.
4. The Public Water Availability Notification form is approved ONLY if there is existing service capability and no need for water system improvements.
5. Water service will be provided once the Applicant completes construction with final approval by the local building official, submits a completed water service application and water use questionnaire, gets written approval by the local land development authority, completes all required conditions and pays all fees.

If the water system is not capable or there are special project conditions before the Utility can complete the Public Water Availability Notification form, then the Applicant and Utility will continue with the following process.

6. Applicant will submit an application for a developer extension or latecomer agreement with any requested information and payment of an administration fee.
7. Utility will review and provide a written response about denial, approval or conditional approval of the project.
8. If acceptable, the Applicant and the Utility will enter into a formal agreement with the Applicant to prepare and bear all costs to have the project comply with DOH requirements in WAC 246-290-125.
9. Applicant's engineer will prepare and submit plans and specifications to the Utility for review and approval. All plans and specifications shall be prepared by and bear the stamp of a qualified Professional Civil Engineer licensed in the State of Washington. Final plans must be accepted by the County Engineer prior to the start of construction.
10. Upon final approval of the construction drawings and submittal of required permits and fees, a pre-construction meeting will be held with the Applicant, construction contractors, utilities, regulatory agencies, Utility personnel, county inspector, DOH and other invited participants
11. Utility will issue written notice to proceed after the pre-construction meeting, approval of materials and approval of the project schedule.
12. During the construction of any water facility, the Utility will have an inspector present. The inspector will be a qualified representative for the Utility to report progress and any

variance from the construction documents to the Administrator and construction project engineer; to be present for all pressure tests, disinfection procedures and water quality sampling; and to coordinate any connections to the existing water system. Only Utility personnel are authorized to operate hydrants, install water meters, perform shutoffs and other work on utility owned facilities.

13. Utility will accept the completed project AFTER completion of construction is approved by the Administrator and County Engineer.

14. Utility can complete the Public Water Availability Notification form.

A completed Public Water Availability Notification from the Utility signifies that we have the capacity to supply water to the applicant's proposed place of use. Some additional approvals are needed from the applicant before water service can be provided.

Water service will be provided once the Applicant completes construction with final approval by the local building official, written approval by the local land development authority, completes all required conditions, submits a completed water service application and water use questionnaire, and pays all fees. The local land development authority is determined by whether the property to be served is within the city or in county lands.

9.2 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

The design and construction standards are contained in Title 13 Lewis County Code and in Appendix J.

